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LATIN AMERICA

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ARGENTINA REPORTEDLY AGREES TO NEW PARANA TALKS

PY041430Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 3 May 78 p 7 PY

[Text] It was reported yesterday in Buenos Aires that the Argentine Government has decided to accept the Brazilian proposal to hold a trilateral ministers meeting, on a date which has yet to be set, to conclude negotiations on compatibilization of the Corpus and Itaipu hydroelectric projects. Meanwhile, in Brasilia-- which is to be the site of the meeting--Itamaraty continues to await official confirmation that Argentina and Paraguay will attend the meeting.

According to an authorized source at San Martin Palace, Argentina decided to accept Brazil's proposal after preliminary discussions with government groups that favor an agreement concerning the Parana River. The source insisted that Ambassador Oscar Camilion will attend a meeting today at Itamaraty and will be in Buenos Aires next Monday to meet with Foreign Minister Oscar Montes "to study the position to be adopted in Brasilia."

The meeting of Foreign Minister Oscar Montes, Azeredo da Silveira and Alberto Nogues will be preceded by a series of bilateral encounters between representatives of Argentina and Brazil. According to some reports, these encounters will be limited to meetings between the ambassadors of the two countries and officials of San Martin Palace and Itamaraty. Nonetheless, bilateral meetings between Paraguay and Argentina and Paraguay and Brazil, so that the partners in the hydroelectric projects can together reach the best solution for each party, have not been ruled out.

The Argentine delegation has not offered any explanation of why it rejected the Brazilian proposal during the last trilateral meeting in Asuncion. Diplomatic circles in Buenos Aires speculated that neither the Brazilian proposal nor the Argentine rejection should be considered final. According to one diplomat, the Brazilian proposal was "the gesture" that Argentina had been waiting for, and if the Argentine delegation did not immediately present a counterproposal, "this should be considered a tactical move."

One reporter asked: "What gesture?" "A gesture of good will; and finally, a predisposition to negotiation which had not been made clear." The diplomat was asked if Argentina had agreed to negotiate a 103-meter height for Corpus with Brazil, as reported. "The Brazilian proposal is not final with respect to that figure, and its text explores the possibility of 103 meters," the diplomat answered. He had first admitted the possibility that the two countries could agree to a height of 105 meteres, with Paraguay's consent.

In Brasilia Itamaraty remained absolutely silent, and its spokesman, adviser Luis Felipe Lampreia, limited himself to reporting that the Brazilian Government continues to await an answer from Argentina and Paraguay concerning the meeting. The most propable date for the meeting, according to speculation yesterday, is Friday, 17 May. This would allow the necessary time for new talks and for a document to be prepared for signature by Ministers Silveira, Montes and Nogues.

BRIEFS

IDB LOAN TO CENTRAL AMERICA--Tegucigalpa, 3 May (ACAN-EFE)--The Central American Bank for economic Integration (BCIE) has signed a contract for an $18 million loan from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to promote industrial growth in Central America. The funds will be used in a program of long- and medium-term credits to establish, expand and improve industrial plants. The credit will be available for projects that promote balanced development, Central American economic integration and new job sources. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0046 GMT 4 May 78 PA]

AIRSPACE VIOLATION BY CHILE DRAWS REACTION

Foreign Ministry Communique

PY041600Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1507 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Communique issued by Argentine Foreign Ministry in Buenos Aires on 4 May]

[Text] It is reported that the Chilean DC-6 commercial airplane with a CC-CEV [as received] registration of the LADECO firm, which had been forced to land at the Punta Indio naval airbase for violating restricted airspace, left this base at 2230 yesterday for Santiago, Chile.

The corresponding violation report will be prepared by the Civil Aviation Directorate, under the regional air command.

Chilean Ambassador Comments

PY041924Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1551 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 May--Chilean Ambassador Sergio Onofre Jara said today that the Chilean plane which was forced to land yesterday after violating the airspace of the Punta Indio naval airbase, returned to Chile last night and that he looked upon the incident as "wholly closed." He added that the plane had no relation or connection with the Chilean Government and that the trip had been made for a private enterprise.

Jara held a press conference today and expressed his confidence that the second border commission will reach an agreement promptly, saying that if it did not, there remained "the third instance, that is, direct negotiation between the two governments."

He also did not discard the possibility of a meeting between Presidents Jorge Videla and Augusto Pinochet, adding: This is not now planned, but that does not mean it will not occur.

VIDELA RECEIVES PERUVIAN AIR FORCE CHIEF

PY042202Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla today met with Lt Gen Luis Galindo Chapman, chief of staff of the Peruvian Air Force, who presented his greetings to the president. General Chapman was accompanied to the president's office by Brig Gen Francisco Salinas, the head of the 2d Intelligence Headquarters of the Argentine Air Force.

MONTES COUNTERS GOVERNMENT'S RIGHTS CRITICS ABROAD

PY050119Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 May--Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Montes stated today that "in view of the charges against Argentina for violating human rights, we believe that we are morally entitled to ask those who are accusing us to give us their reasons for doing so and to what degree these reasons can be considered valid."

Montes spoke during a luncheon held in his honor by the Argentine Chamber of Advertisers at a downtown hotel. He said that certain European sectors, "from which we were entitled to expect an appropriate understanding of Argentina's domestic situation, have not been able to truly assess the tragedy which the country experienced as a result of subversive violence." He stated: "They have not managed to understand that the state has the inalienable duty of protecting the community's right to live in peace and without fear from a group of terrorists whose only goal is the total destruction of a political and legal order which they despise but to which they turn in haste every time they see themselves in danger."

Montes explained that "to say that there are human rights means--in accordance with our historical and spiritual background--that there are certain basic rights which man has because he is a man, rights which are inherent in his nature and dignity, rights which have not been graciously granted by a political society but which must be acknowledged and guaranteed by this society."

The foreign minister also said that "Argentina has an honorable tradition of respect for human rights" and added that "the entire Argentine legal system is aimed at guaranteeing these rights and we can proudly say that even at times when specific political circumstances have given rise to exceptional situations, the authorities have always made use of their legitimate powers to protect the validity of constitutional guarantees."

Later in his speech Minister Montes stated that "unfortunately it is only occasionally that we have had precise answers to our questions.

"It would seem that the approach is to charge Argentina with violations of human rights without specifying which rights or, even worse, basing such charges on ill-willed reports made by antisocial persons or groups," added the minister. "This is just one of the means used to distort the image of the Argentine Government among the members of the international community. There is a broad campaign in this direction and all we need is to go back 2 years to trace its roots," said the minister.

After indicating that "the international community had recognized the current Argentine Government as soon as it took over," Montes said: "However, surprisingly enough, it was from this same international community that voices were raised after March 1976 to criticize alleged violations of human rights in Argentina."

Montes added that "this entire campaign is based on misinterpretations which stem from lack of understanding and sometimes ill will." He went on to explain that "every arbitrary action harmful, either spiritually or physically, to the citizens constitutes a violation of human rights." He stated that "when this action is repeatedly carried out by a public office which takes advantage of state machinery to restrict basic guarantees which are part of any constitution, we can say that we are in the presence of a systematic violation of human rights."

Montes argued that "obviously this is not the case with the Argentine Government, which has legitimately resorted to indispensible security measures to protect internal security and order, that is, to guarantee to most Argentines the full exercise of their essential rights: the right to live and think freely, the right to work and learn freely, the right of every citizen to preserve his individuality."

Montes pointed out that "it is obvious that only ill-willed distortion could lead the people to mistake the latter situation for the former, which is what extremist subversion seeks."

He added: "When the national government set the reestablishment of domestic peace and security and the final eradication of terrorist violence as its priority goals by firmly and openly declaring war on subversion, it destroyed whatever hope the subversive organizations may have had of participating in the political framework.

"This forced subversion to concentrate its efforts abroad. The human rights issue and the alleged violations of these rights provided it with the appropriate material for the fulfillment of its goals which are to undermine the prestige of the country and its current government and to isolate it from the rest of the world," said the foreign minister.

After emphasizing that foreign public opinion lacks sufficient knowledge of the problem and "has echoed the attacks against our country without being aware of the very special nature of the war against subversion," Montes stated that Argentina's experience "has been one of the most painful in the history of struggle against terrorism.

"Those who have not lived through a similar experience are obviously at a disadvantage when trying to assess the magnitude of the danger of terrorism and the size of the nationwide effort we have had to make to eradicate it," said Montes.

He indicated that "being able to show a country at peace, a country which is working and building its future in freedom, is the basic condition for the strengthening of Argentina's image abroad."

According to the foreign minister, the government information campaign is beginning to show some results and "those who visit us are relieved to see that Argentina is a peaceful country where subversive attacks and crimes are less frequent than in their own countries."

He emphasized that "fewer and fewer people arrive in our country with an apocalyptic image of our everyday life. The myth is being destroyed. However, there is still much to be done. The task of showing our true image is the responsibility of the entire nation, not of the state alone."

In his speech the minister outlined the basic nature of his administration and especially mentioned the political intention of reaching "an arragement by means of peaceful direct negotiations" which certainly "prevails in the Chilean Government" with regard to the southern border conflict. He then stated, "this certainly applies to us as well."

HARGUINDEGUY: NO PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS WILL BE REPLACED

PY041349Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1040 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 May--Interior Minister Gen Albano Harguindeguy has stated that the replacement of governors is not planned for the present year. The provincial chiefs heard about this decision at the governors' meeting a month ago, he said.

BALBIN REFUSES TO CONTINUE ANSWERING JUDGE'S QUESTIONS

FY050143Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1515 GMT 4 May 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 May--Ricardo Balbin, president of the Radical Civic Union (UCR), said as he was leaving the court today that he refused to continue with the questioning for which he was summoned in relation to a communique of his party because the judge did not accept his "spontaneous statements." "There was a misunderstanding here," explained Balbin when he left the court at 1020, after being summoned to the office of federal judge Norberto Gilleta as already being "indicted or on trial."

Balbin said: "I came here to give an account. I came with the best intention to make a clear statement. But I did not understand the treatment I received from the judge, although I believe it was correct. It seemed to me that he was questioning me and not accepting my spontaneous statements. I then said that I would not continue speaking. I refused to continue with the inquiry."

He added: "I am not making a criticism or criticizing myself, but I felt that my statements were being distorted. Therefore, as I did not want to have any more problems, I said that I was stopping, that I was not going to say anything else."

The UCR document, which was signed by Balbin and about 30 UCR leaders, has already led to other actions in relation to the law which prohibits the activity of political parties.

Balbin categorically denied that there was any relationship between this procedure and his arrest in Villa Mercedes, San Luis Province, last Sunday. He said: "These are two different events. This summons refers to an event which took place here and not to the other. As I said in San Luis, that event was the responsibility of the local chief of police."

Balbin, who as summoned by Judge Giletta for 1000, entered the court [words indistinct] was exactly on time for the inquiry before the judge and stayed less than 20 minutes for questioning.

UCR'S BALBIN INTERVIEWED BY EL DIA

FY050234Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1229 GMT 4 May 78 FY

[Text] La Plata, 4 May--Ricardo Balbin, president of the national board of the Radical Civic Union [UCR], in addition to once again defending the political parties, also remarked that "certain sectors wish to embarrass us and put us in the same bag with all the other failures." He then asked "who is not in it? Even the high-ranking members of this government are in it." The veteran politician, whose remarks were published here today in the newspaper EL DIA, remarked that "some of its commanders were commanders before and the current interior minister was chief of police during Isabel Peron's tenure as president."

Balbin, who spoke about the criticism of political parties, asserted that "events cannot be distorted" and that "all of us must let our conduct be inspected in order to determine the errors and successes of everyone, but not just the errors of some and the successes of others because in that case...."

The UCR leader stated vaguely that the process which led some youthful sectors toward subversion was carried out "from top to bottom" and that the politicization which accompanied it had "a trend which was not political." He emphasized: "In a sense it was political but its objective was that of taking over the government, which in turn then became subversion. But we said this before the armed forces took action and we denounced it during political campaigns. We, for example, did not take part in the Montonero parade during the 'Dorrego operation' [not further identified]. Some military officers did participate. I am not going to give names, but they were photographed," he added.

Balbin then asked: "Were they to blame or the government that ordered these gentlemen to be there?" He then said that "we are not going to tell them that they are useless because they did or did not attend because we understood that it was a process which was becoming distorted."

He then emphasized that "the responsibility must be shared by everyone, in other words, a pattern must be changed, but I do not believe that it would be good to change it in silence. I believe that it should be changed through debate, clean and clear debate."

Balbin believes that the civilian-military trend proposed by the government is an idea which "is not clearly defined," and he once again defended the political program of the Hour of the People, "if it had been carried out." [as received]

He then referred to his term "relative," which he has used in recent statements when referring to his support of a similar political movement and which he believes is a term which is now being used "unworthily."

He added: "I pointed out on that occasion that all movements which have been created in order to seek the country's unity are related to one another. There is a resemblance."

In another part of the interview, the UCR leader referred to the new stage in the national governmental process, saying that "this stage had already been foreseen."

After expressing his conviction that "there was no doubt that General Videla would be proclaimed president," he indicated that "there is concern over the power structure.... In other words, are things to continue as up to now or will they take on other characteristics? This, it seems, has not yet been determined."

He also said that "the takeover of the government by the armed forces in 1976 was different from the old Argentine military takeovers." He then referred to the process which led to the naming of Videla as president until 1981.

He then said: "I am aware that there might have been some obstacle which determined the need for a meeting of the highest-ranking officers in order to exchange ideas, but I never had any doubts regarding the person who was to be chosen.

"There might have been some disagreement as to how power was to be exercised and this leaves a feeling that in that secret meeting some guidelines were written into the document which was submitted to the military junta. But this fact has not been disclosed. Thus, only in August will we know the structure of the future 3-year government," he added.

On defending the existence of political organizations, Balbin explained his conviction that "here there is a minority which does not want the parties to make proclamations and I ask: Who was not mistaken?"

Finally he emphasized that "during recent times there have been aggressive actions against us coming from several parts. I wish to believe that they come from sectors which do not want democracy for the country and therefore make these accusations while ignoring their own actions."

MRS PERON DECLARED IN GOOD HEALTH

PY050129Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2235 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 May--An official source has stated that rumors about a possible transfer of Isabel Martinez de Peron to another country so that she can be looked after for alleged cerebral damage are completely false.

The same source said that Isabel Martinez de Peron is in excellent health [words indistinct].

UK, USSR FISHING PLANS IN MALVINAS AREA RUMORED

PY041546Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0010 GMT 3 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 May--Regarding a report from London that the House of Commons has accepted a private project to promote fishing in the South Atlantic, Argentine Foreign Ministry spokesmen said that this project will become important only if the British Government [words indistinct] the request, disregarding our country's sovereign right in this area.

Regarding the same information, which was reported by the Argentine press several days ago, the spokesmen recalled that our country has offered the United Kingdom expanded economic cooperation in the maritime area of the Malvinas Islands, within the framework of negotiations being carried out by the two countries.

The spokesmen added that a joint program of this kind can be included within the framework of negotiations, but naturally it must be tied to the main aspects of these negotiations, which concern the return of the islands to the nation.

Regarding the dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom over the sovereignty of the islands, the Argentine spokesmen said that it was unlikely that the Soviet Union has submitted a request--as reported--to either Malvinas officials or the Foreign Office for purposes of establishing a fishing port in the Malvinas Islands.

It was said that this would be an unfriendly act toward Argentina by a nation which cannot ignore the dispute over the Malvinas Islands, considering that that nation supported UN resolutions regarding the islands which, besides indicating that negotiations between the two countries are the best way to solve the dispute, established the principle that no changes should be made.

ITALIAN UNION DELEGATION ARRIVES FROM CHILE

FYO40144Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1659 GMT 3 May 78 FY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 3 May--A delegation of Italian union leaders arrived in Argentina this morning. They came from Chile, where they examined the union situation and engaged in the problem of human rights and missing persons who, according to Italian travelers, total 600.

The Italian union leaders are: Mario Dido and Mario Giovannini, of the majority group of the Italian General Confederation of Labor of a socialist-communist tendency; Emilio Gabaglio, of the Italian Union of Labor [UIL] Catholic-oriented branch; and Bruno Gugli, of the UIL socialist-republican-oriented branch.

The Italian union leaders were welcomed at Ezeiza International Airport by Roberto Garcia, Enrique Mico and Miguel Agostini, members of the Committee of 25.

Gabaglio stated to newsmen that their trip to Buenos Aires is aimed at "getting better acquainted with the Argentine labor union movement, which is experiencing a difficult moment in its life."

He indicated: "We expect to talk with our comrades of the Committee of 25 and with other union sectors regarding several issues, among them the union leaders who are detained in Argentina."

Asked about their activities in Chile, Gabaglio stated that they had gone there at the invitation of the Committee for 1 May Celebrations, made up of several Chilean union federations which belong to the unions of the opposition. The Italian union leader explained that "we took part in the 1 May celebrations in the Santiago streets and we were able to see that workers in Chile at present unfortunately have no freedom to carry out their union task and express all their union, political and human rights."

Gabaglio also reported that "we have also discussed with the president of the Chilean Supreme Court the human rights violations committed in Chile and we have particularly discussed the problem of missing persons." He stated: "Through the lists published by the Vicariate of Solidarity of the Chilean Church, we have learned that there are some 600 missing persons."

Asked whether the Argentine situation at the time when terrorism struck Argentina was now better understood, Gabaglio stated: "I don't know.... I don't have a complete picture of the Argentine situation. It is difficult for me to make comparisons at this time. We might have a better idea of the situation after our visit here...."

BRIEFS

LABOR UNIONS HOLD MEETING--The group of the 32 democratic labor unions has met to discuss the current labor situation and has issued a communique in which it states its intention to continue struggling for the traditional values of the labor movement. The communique added that persons guilty of the current economic chaos should be given no special consideration and called for opportunities to be granted to capable labor leaders who have always been ready to struggle for the progress of the country. [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 22 Apr 78 p 8 FY]

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE FOR UNIVERSITY REOPENING

PY041609Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Students of the Greater University of San Andres [UMSA] continue to demand the reopening of the university, which was closed indefinitely by the government last Friday.

Last night, at a general assembly held at the teachers social home, the university students demanded the immediate handing over of the UMSA to the Supreme Teachers-Students Council and the release of three detained students. Shortly after the assembly the students took to La Paz streets at 2115 for a demonstration and marched to San Pedro prison. In front of the building they noisily demanded the release of three comrades who are in prison, they said, because they defended autonomy. At public meetings which the students will hold in the next few hours, particularly at schools and factories, they will continue to demand the reopening of the university.

A commission which was formed at last night's assembly will be in charge of spreading the demands of the students. This afternoon at 1700 there will be a protest march, called the "March for Autonomy," also decided by last night's assembly. The march will start at (Perez Velasco) Plaza and will follow several La Paz streets, the students have announced.

In the last few hours several La Paz schools have issued statements in support of the university students.

In the meantime, the official sector remains silent. It is not known whether the UMSA will be reopened, or if it will remain closed indefinitely.

PEREDA LINKS SILES ZUAZO TO EXTREMISM

PY041550Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Gen Juan Pereda Asbun has criticized Hernan Siles Zuazo's candidacy because it is linked to the extremism, he has said. This statement can be read in the bulletin of the People's Nationalist Union [UNP], which reports on Pereda's proclamations in Robore and Puerto Suarez.

In rallies last Monday at those places, the UNP candidate delivered speeches in which he said: At the present time we are facing a democratic reality after more than 10 years.

He said that Siles Zuazo's candidacy is supported by the Communist Party and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, who receive instructions from Moscow. He called them infantile extremists and said that one must either stand with them or with nationalism.

He then referred to the nationalists who do not wish to support his candidacy for personal reasons. He added: We tell them that the only true position they can take or should choose is Bolivian nationalism.

After speaking of the present government regime, he stated that social insurance for peasants will come as the final result of the regime upheld by the armed forces, a social measure he believes to be highly important and revolutionary.

Both in Robore and Puerto Suarez, local representatives spoke, asking General Pereda to consider local problems. Political and labor leaders made speeches in support of the UNP candidate, Gen Juan Pereda Asbun.

SILES ZUAZO CHARGES GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE

PY031807Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 May 78 PY

[Text] Hernan Siles Zuazo, candidate of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP], has charged that the government influenced the cancellation of two radio programs. He was referring to the news programs "Facetas" and "Cuarto Poder" of Radio Stentor and Radio Cruz del Sur, respectively.

Siles Zuarzo told "Primera Edicion" of Radio Fides that television should be a means of free information for the country but that it has been converted into a tool of the official candidate. He stressed that Bolivian television distorted and maniupulated reports on the ceremony when he was proclaimed candiate at "Carita de Lima" last Friday, asserting that it was a meeting of only 300 people.

He also said that closure of the Greater University of San Andres [UMSA] and the detention of a large number of people under implausible pretexts clearly refutes the stated intention of democratizing the country.

Siles Zuazo said that all this is clear proof that the government has begun intimidation against various sectors of the population that express their preference for the opposition.

"Primera Edicion" also asked Siles Zuazo about negotiations which are reportedly being held between representatives of his alliance and those of the Revolutionary Front of the Left. He neither confirmed nor denied the report. He repeated, however, that the FUDP is always open to dialog.

He concluded by reporting that as of the second half of this month he will begin a tour of the main cities, mining centers and rural towns of the country in his electoral campaign.

PAZ ESTENSSORO VOICES SUPPORT FOR SILES ZUAZO

PY042004Y Sucre Radio la Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Victor Paz Estenssoro, absolute leader of the National Revolutionary Movement, has confirmed his unconditional support for Hernan Siles Zuazo, candidate of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front.

This has been stated by Abel Ayoroa Argandona [National Revolutionary Movement of t Left secretary general], who also said that talks to form a broad political front are made difficult because of the struggle over the distribution of seats in the Senate and Chamber of Deputies.

BRIEFS

DELEGATION TO VENEZUELA--La Paz, 22 Apr--A delegation composed of representatives of both public and private sectors and headed by Industry Minister Col Carlos Rodrigo departed for Caracas today to attend a meeting of the Bolivian-Venezuelan joint commission. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1501 GMT 22 Apr 78 PY]

REPORTED CANNON SALE TO USSR TERMED 'GROUNDLESS'

PY042022Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 May 78 p 27 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo--The specialized Engineering Corporation [ENGESA] termed as absolutely groundless yesterday the reports released last week by the press that ENGESA would be exporting 100-mm cannons to the Soviet Union, which would then reexport them to the Middle East where the cannons would be adapted to Soviet tanks in the Arab countries.

ENGESA explained that it is not exporting war materiel to the Soviet Union. The ENGESA spokesman said that he does not know the origin of the report, although he admits that the people cited as the source of the information--the Eletrometal executive board--represent an industry which is ENGESA's traditional supplier of spare parts and components.

Although ENGESA has denied the report that it would be exporting cannons to the Soviet Union, businessmen of the heavy equipment sector reported that the sales of cannons were not actually aimed at the Soviet market, but directly at the Middle East.

The cannons and other parts--motors and auto spare parts--would be sent to Arab countries which have damaged Soviet armored vehicles, and are not receiving replacements for the damaged materiel from the Soviet industries.

The exports by ENGESA are obviously conducted with certain secrecy, and often not even the manufacturers of spare parts ordered by the state company know where they go. ENGESA works as an assembler of military vehicles and its export activities are conducted secretly. Last year, ENGESA exports surpassed $300 million, but its markets are not known for certain. Only the sales of dozens of tanks to Libya, which is one of the most important clients, were officially reported.

MDB DENIES INTENTIONS TO NOMINATE MILITARY CANDIDATE

PY041850Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] In Brasilia MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement] President Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes has stated that he is unaware of any understandings within the MDB regarding the launching of a military candidate for president. He indicated that the MDB makes its own decisions, and if it considers the launching of a military candidate advantageous it will do so.

GENERAL FONSECA DISPELS RUMORS OF BECOMING MDB CANDIDATE

PY041625Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] General Ariel Pacca da Fonseca, chief of the army General Staff, is not interested in being a presidential candidate for the MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement] and said so in these terms: I don't think my name has ever been brought up, considered or mentioned.

General Fonseca dispelled these unfounded rumors when talking to the press during a ceremony held in the main hall of Congress to launch the collection of books written by (Ednardo Pereira de Vasconcellos).

While making himself extremely accessible to journalists, General Fonseca said firmly: I am thinking of nothing else but my military career, especially now that I am about to terminate it by the end of this year.

He refused to comment on political topics and when asked about the reforms the government is considering, General Fonseca replied: "I am interested in military reforms and nothing else." Then he smiled at the pun he had just made. Firmly dodging further questions on political topics, General Fonseca dispelled rumors that he could be a presidential candidate for the MDB.

ANALYSTS DOUBT POSSIBILITY OF MDB NOMINATING GENERAL

FY050257Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 3 May 78 p 4 FY

[By Evandro Paranagua]

[Excerpt] Military sectors linked directly with Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo admit that there is a movement in the army which is seeking to launch a general serving on active duty as presidential candidate for the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB]. They feel, however, that it is highly improbable that this maneuver will be successful.

The reasoning of the military analysts linked with Figueiredo is based mainly on the leadership principle, which signifies that any divisive attempt in the military area would take as its starting drive a stand not only against the chief of the National Intelligence Service, but above all against President Geisel and even against the National Renewal Alliance [ARENA], which has already chosen its candidate at a national convention. They also argue that what at first could appear as an opening of options and the emergence of the MDB as a typically revolutionary party would in fact be a dangerous attempt to split the army by suggesting that the latter was embarking on a perilous adventure with the real aim, thinly disguised by the insinuation of an immediate political opening, of satisfying personal or group interests which have been annoyed for a variety of reasons.

The principle of obedience to the leadership would thus discourage the planners of a parallel candidacy from any approach which would make the army minister touchy about this principle because in the opinion of the aforementioned analysts General Bethlem is perfectly in agreement with the guidelines from Planalto Palace and he would not hesitate to reject any attempt to involve him in opposing presidential directives.

O ESTADO ANALYZES CURRENT THOUGHT WITHIN ARMY

FY040230Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 May 78 p 4 FY

[By Evandro Paranagua]

[Text] The common denominator in the thinking of Brazilian Army officers includes both anticommunism and a loathing of corruption. Otherwise, their thoughts sometimes vary greatly but this does not interfere with the highly respected values of hierarchy and discipline, which continue to be honored as the mainstay of military organization.

A survey of Brazilian officers shows that they can be separated into plainly diverse groups among which, however, there is a general desire--in addition to their dedication to the constitutional mission of protecting the country against foreign enemies and to the revolutionary mission of guaranteeing order to make economic development possible--to maintain unity in the army, to reconcile themselves with public opinion and to win the affection and confidence of the people. This desire is most noticeable in the large mass of young officers and in a small group of generals.

This desire is common to majors and lieutenant colonels studying in the command and Joint Staff School, to high-ranking officers studying in the Superior War College, to officers serving with the troops, and to officers working behind desks at the general headquarters in Brasilia. This desire can also be found in a minority of generals--a desire which weakens as their rank becomes higher--among influential and respected officers in the reserve and in members of the Superior Military Tribunal. This large group of men of different ages and ranks admits the existence of a clear dividing line between those, on the one hand, who think that the government and the revolution are on a collision course with the desire of the people and that the state is steadily moving away from the nation, and on the other hand, those who think that all is going well and thus nothing must be changed. With some gaps, that dividing line is most evident at the rank of colonel. Because of their age, experience and expectations of acquiring military power through their possible promotion to the rank of general, colonels are the most concerned with the analysis and interpretation of current political events. Either because it has its own convictions or simply because it is overwhelmed by President Geisel's authority, the military summit does not see, or if it does see does not want to admit, the fact that there is a gradually widening gap between the higher and lower ranks in the army. The lower ranks do not approve the courses of action taken by the revolution which they consider to be undemocratic. The lower ranks are convinced of the existence of corruption on a large scale--outside the army, it must be said--which strangely is not attacked with the necessary energy by those in the position to do so. In addition to that, the army appears before public opinion as the pretorian guard of an autocratic system, when in truth the army does not have much voice in decisions affecting its own internal affairs.

Brazilian officers are today divided into two large groups: those who feel they are above all professions, avoiding political involvement but having their own opinions and thoughts, and those who have political concerns and who are again divided into two subgroups, one which seeks the reinstatement of the state of rights immediately and the other which wants to wait. The latter subgroup is composed mostly of members of the so-called "military intelligence community," who are considered by their army colleagues as radicals, are frequently feared as rightists and are well-qualified professionally and intellectually. The members of the subgroup which wants to wait are not numerous, but they hold key posts, wield influence and believe that those who are in the "intelligence community" are only one step away from power. Since this is true in closed regimes but not in open ones, they want to maintain the status quo.

But the position and motivations of this military minority which wants to maintain the status quo must not be interpreted superficially. The negative--even counterrevolutionary --aspects of the 1964 revolution can be traced to the "intelligence community" since this community is responsible for fighting subversion and corruption. Fighting corruption is rather simple: to identify and set in motion the sector which should investigate and eventually punish corruption. Fighting subversion is more complex, because of the methods employed in repression. If these methods are improperly applied, they may encroach upon human rights. Fighting subversion also intrudes into the right of habeas corpus for political crimes, a right which the "intelligence community" does not want to recognize.

But this "intelligence community" is also subject to transformations, not necessarily in their outlook but at least in the tactics to be adopted in discharging its duty to fight subversion and corruption.

And that fight is the common ground where two apparently heterogeneous subgroups in the army--one for and another against an immediate political opening--meet. The two subgroups are in agreement on a point which is made by some influential members of the "intelligence community." The problem of subversive violence is cyclical in Brazil and in the world, so the urban and rural guerrillas who had their heyday in the 1968-1973 period may return no matter what the living standards achieved by the revolution and no matter what the nature of the political regime which might be ruling the country. What this all means is that a democratic opening is a possibility under certain conditions. And these conditions must preserve the operational influence of the "intelligence community" and the security sector in general. In the end, it will all depend on the kinds of safeguards adopted by the regime. The two subgroups are identified with the repudiation of broad and general amnesty and with the disbelief in the reciprocity of forgiveness.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that out of every five officers, four would like to see the country return to democracy. In the specific case of the army, which has gotten itself quite involved with the political process, its officers would like to see it out of the whole thing. A general on active duty described this situation--a semidemocracy in which the army is being used as an instrument--as being "our Vietnam," and added that the "worst thing is that it is not difficult to get out of it, but the fact is that we somehow fail to do so. It would suffice to hear what the presidents say when they take over and to see the actions that follow."

However, the most important aspect in the current Brazilian military picture is that the army--which is the main pillar of the armed power structure--from its grassroots upward would hardly make a move toward either an armed uprising or some other pressure to increase the strictness of the regime. This attitude is totally different from that which prevailed in October 1965 when then-President Castello Branco was forced to give in to military pressure (the grassroots included) and to issue AI-2, which had the military community in Rio de Janeiro practically on the warpath. There are clear examples of the current attitude. Should political reforms turn out to be a farce, should a new batch of sophistry be used to make things difficult for the MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement], or should some movement of the "winner does not get anything" ["ganha mas nao leva"] type occur if the MDB were to win the elections, nobody believes that the military grassroots will attempt to change things around. The time for this type of action has passed. However, there is little doubt that the reaction will be very severe, as majors and lieutenant colonels who represent the positions of their comrades say, and that the example given in high places--and that means both government and military higher echelons--would be seen in a very bad light.

This sector of the military believes that the politicians should not oppose the revolution as a historical event, that they must not turn against the past in order to be able to build a better future. Without taking rhetoric into account, it is hoped that there will be no concessions to communism or a longing for the past which prevailed prior to 1964 because this would preclude a latent tactical alliance which is there, certainly, merely needing a catalyst to become an operational reality. This attempt to pave the way for the political process in the light of the democratic postulates of the 1964 revolution is considered essential. Should the politicans resist with dignity any political-institutional violence, and should high-ranking military officers express their opposition if it were to take place, the basic sector of the military will be eager for the company of politicians and for the leadership of those high-ranking military officers who are against this violence.

This basic sector, which is now available as a pawn [massa de manobra], is being veiwed as a kind of "tactical reserve for the process of democratization," whose utilization as a pressure factor may be essential but whose members would never be able to start a process. This reserve becomes more important because its members campaign within their circle as much as they can and do not hesitate to reassert that the so-called "professional majority" is being motivated by the theses of rapprochement with the people, in spite of its professional regulations such as discipline and obedience.

However, it is equally possible that the picture will remain more-or-less static until the end of the revolutionary government, with some institutional relaxation and electoral results acceptable to the government. What then? The pro-opening military view this possibility from two angles: There are those who believe that General Figueiredo "is bound to implement an opening because it would not be sufficient to make an arrangement with the high command," according to what a major said; while others believe that he will be unable to implement an opening because he lacks strong motivation for this, and without this will to struggle nothing could be done because there is resistance among the higher military echelons and this resistance is strong," according to a retired four-star general. As to the feelings toward General Figueiredo, they vary but there is practically no overt dissatisfaction. However, there is a general desire for him to be less centralized and personalized than President Geisel.

At this point there is resentment and concern among the army. The resentment is felt with regard to the fact that Gen Hugo Abreau was overlooked in recent promotions to army general. This has made him--without his consent to some degree--a banner for both radicals and liberals who aredissatisfied with the regime, a situation which according to many officers generates a somewhat dangerous confusion. The concern is directed at insuring that the commanding officers have sufficient command authority and motives to become examples worthy of being followed rather than just giving orders which must be obeyed out of sheer discipline and that everyone should have enough commonsense to not attempt solving disagreements by force. It is believed at all levels that this is in fact happening. It is also believed that internal radicalization may reach a dangerous point if the regime were to lose its flexibility even further.

LAWYERS GIVE VIEWS ON HABEAS CORPUS, OTHER TOPICS

PY050102Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] The Sao Paulo Chapter of the Brazilian Lawyers Guild has asked the director of the state prison to allow lawyers to visit their clients on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, which is now forbidden by an internal administrative resolution.

[begin (Citico) recording] [Question] Dr (Citico), what was the reason which prompted the state prison director to forbid lawyers visitation with prisoners on those days?

[Answer] At the request of the lawyers guild, the state prison director issued a resolution establishing rules for lawyers' visits to inmates, which was not intended to eliminate the lawyers' right to visit their clients. Yet the prohibition continued and I had no alternative other than to request the opinion of the "Commission on Privileges" [not further explained] and in this manner to have the state justice secretary and the state prison director recognize a privilege guaranteed by federal law for lawyers to meet privately with their clients on any day. Depending on the urgency of the case, the lawyer needs to see his client on Saturdays and Sundays. This is a lawyer's legitimate right which, of course, can be subject to regulations so that security risks can be prevented. But under the pretext of security, nobody can take away the lawyers' right to visit with their clients who need counsel.

[Question] How long have lawyers been forbidden to visit their clients on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays?

[Answer] Fortunately we have not had too many problems with this type of restriction. The existence of this restriction is a fact, however, as proven by the request made to the authorities by the lawyers early this year. I believe that with the steps now being taken this problem will be solved. [end recording]

This was an interview with Doctor (Citico), president of the Sao Paulo Chapter of the Brazilian Lawyers Guild.

We are now going to interview Dr (Miguel Reais Junior), president of the Sao Paulo Lawyers Association, on the topics of habeas corpus and guarantees for judges. [begin Reais Junior recording] [Question] Dr (Reais Junior), what would the final approval of the restoration of habeas corpus and guarantees for judges mean?

[Answer] I think that we have significantly moved forward when the government submits to Congress a bill for restoring habeas corpus and guarantees for judges. I just want to stress the fact that it is impossible to advance any [words indistinct] since the information we have says nothing about the extent of that restoration. The guarantees for judges--magistrate guarantees--are very important because they will give judges absolute guarantee of nonreplacement, tenure and freedom to render their verdicts. All of this adds up to insuring the independent of the judiciary branch. It is essential for a judge to have absolute stability in his post, thus allowing him free use of his authority to administer justice.

[Question] The Sao Paulo Lawyers Association has given some suggestions to Senator Petronio Portella, who told Radio Bandeirantes that they included restoration of habeas corpus and magistrate guarantees. What else, Dr (Reais Junior)?

[Answer] I do not think these measures alone can insure total tranquillity for the nation since the restoration of constitutional guarantees cannot work satisfactorily without full political reforms to make possible good rapport among the three branches of government. We cannot only strive to obtain individual guarantes, but overall reforms as well to prevent future political crises from (?dividing) the country. [end recording]

Only yesterday in the Sao Paulo legislative assembly, state Deputy (Marco Antonio Castelo Branco), who belongs to the so-called National Renewal Alliance vanguard wing, gave his opinion on the restoration of habeas corpus and magistrate guarantees.

[begin (Castelo Branco) recording] I see this as a step forward, but taken timidly. The aspirations of the people for democracy and complete freedom cannot be satisfied with those two small measures. Of course at a time when the situation of political prisoners is causing concern, the magistrate guarantees will allow judges to speed up trials and to render verdicts calmly and independently. I do recognize this, but I must say that we are a generation of men who want to move ahead quickly.

[Question] Have you heard anything on President Geisel's inclination to expunge Article 185 from the constitution, the article which forbids those who have been punished under AI-5 to participate in political activities for the rest of their lives?

[Answer] That is no more than an administrative step because the problem before us is allowing those who were punished to resume political activities in different parties, not the ones we now have. If the cancellation of Article 185 is the start of better things to come, fine. But if it stops there, it will be too little to satisfy the aspirations of the people. [end recording]

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REQUESTS ACTION ON HUNGER STRIKES

PY050318Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Text] London--For the second time in 3 weeks, the humanitarian organization Amnesty International sent a telegram today to President Ernesto Giesel asking him to do everything possible to end the hunger strike of almost all the political prisoners in Brazil.

TWO MORE DEATH SQUAD VICTIMS DISCOVERED

PY042103Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1615 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janiero, 4 May--It was reported here todaythat the bullet-riddled bodies of two more victims of the death squad were picked up within the last 24 hours in the suburbs of Rio de Janeiro.

According to the press, with these two new victims the number of people murdered by the squad in the suburbs of Rio de Janeiro now totals 178 for 1978.

On several occasions the Brazilian press has denounced the death squad as an organization of policemen.

Police authorities deny this accusation and attribute the mysterious murders in the suburbs of Rio de Janeiro to a settling of accounts between rival criminal gangs.

Nevertheless, during the last few years former police officers have been sentenced to long prison terms for having participated in crimes attributed to the death squad.

BRIEFS

BRAZILIAN-FINNISH JOINT VENTURE--An agreement under which $15 million will be invested to manufacture machinery for the making of paper and cellulose in Campinas, Sao Paulo State, has been signed in Helsinki between Maquinas Pila (47.5 percent) and Brasilinvest (5 percent) on the Brazilian side, and the TVW paper machine group (47.5 percent) on the Finnish side. The agreement calls for the transfer of Finnish technology and the plant should be in full operation in 2 years. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Apr 78 p 25 PY]

LOANS FROM FRG--The finance minister has authorized (Alcir Costa Araujo), cabinet chief of the Program Funds Department of the Federal Economic Fund [CEF], to sign on behalf of the CEF loan contracts for DM100 million with several banks in the FRG. [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 27 Apr 78 PY]

OFFICIALS PROVIDE DETAILS ON BOMBS, WARN CITIZENS

PY032027Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 3 May 78 PY

[Text] According to reports released by appropriate officials, security personnel have deactivated 8 explosive devices and taken care of 59 false alarms this year. Another 12 devices exploded, giving clear proof of the risk the experts face in handling these devices made of chemical explosives.

Nine bombs were found during the first 3 days of May alone. Of these, one exploded, injuring two experts. The device had already been taken apart and exploded only partially, avoiding a chain reaction which would have been fatal.

The explosive devices which had been discovered so far are of the homemade type. They are made of plastic containers filled with aluminum powder and potassium hydrochloride. The timing device is a cheap clock.

These explosive devices are placed close to gas, power and water meters or in gardens. The bombs are wrapped in regular paper, mesh material of the kind used to package onions, or gift paper.

Security services recommend the people avoid touching any such packages when they find them in these places or elsewhere in their homes and advise the carabineros immediately. The range of action of these devices is approximately 2 meters. Therefore, the last thing one should do is get close to them.

TWO ASYLEES SINCE 1975 TO BE GRANTED SAFE-CONDUCTS

PY040027Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2303 GMT 3 May 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 3 May--It was learned here today from diplomatic sources that the Chilean Government will grant safe-conduct passages to two asylees who have been at local embassies since 1975. Those benefiting from the safe-conduct passages are Rafael Gonzalez, former Chilean Air Force official and member of the National Intelligence Office, his wife and his 8-year-old son; and Jorge Madariaga, a deserter from the Chilean Army.

Gonzalez took refuge in the Italian Embassy in 1975 after retiring from the air force. Madariaga fled from his unit in 1975 and sought asylum at the Venezuelan Embassy.

Tomaso de Vergontini, Ialian charge d'affaires, said that Gonzalez has a visa for the United States and that negotiations with the Chilean Government are well underway to get a safe-conduct passage.

Venezuelan Ambassador Enrique Aspurua stated that his country has granted a visa to Madariago and that it is hoped the military court studying his case will issue a final decision to grant him a safe-conduct so that he can leave Chile.

U.S. BANK TO PROVIDE $60 MILLION LOAN

PY041902Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile--The (Libra) Bank Ltd of New York has approved a loan of $60 million for the Chilean State Bank to finance domestic production activities. The deal will be closed shortly in the United States. The Chilean State Bank will be represented by the president of this institution, Enrique Battle, and the manager of its foreign department, (Alfonso Cubillas).

FOREIGNERS ARRESTED ON 1 MAY ORDERED EXPELLED

PY042319Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2233 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 4 May--It has been reported here that the Chilean Government today decided to expel a group of foreigners arrested on Monday in this capital, charged with "street disorders." This decision pertains to the 18 foreign unionists and religious persons who gathered at a downtown plaza to participate in a rally not authorized by the military government during the celebration of International Labor Day.

According to a communique released by the Interior Ministry, "it has been ordered that the foreigners who were arrested on 1 May for violating public order and for participating in an internal political act immediately leave the country."

The number, names and nationality of the people affected by this measure are not included in the short simple statement, indicating that, "regarding some of them who are fulfilling some activities in the country, a study is being made of the juridical aspect of their stay in Chile in order to make a final decision."

It was reported here on Tuesday that among the 618 persons detained because of those incidents were 18 foreigners. There are 10 unionists and 8 religious persons from the Netherlands, Germany, the United States, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Ireland, Spain and Argentina in the group.

It was also revealed by journalistic sources that 11 of the 18 people who were detained left the country voluntarily on Tuesday and Wednesday.

JORDANIAN ENVOY SAYS CROWN PRINCE TO VISIT

PY050250Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Crown Prince Hasan of Jordan and his wife Princess Tharwat will officially visit our country next September. This was disclosed by Jordanian Ambassador Hisham Rushdi ash-Shawwa, who visited the president at noon today to bid farewell at the end of his tour of duty in our country.

During his meeting, the diplomat delivered a letter from the crown prince of Jordan to the president. The letter contained his acceptance of the invitation extended by the Chilean Government.

BRIEFS

SANTIAGO BANK PRESIDENT--Jorge Cauas, former Chilean finance minister and former ambassador to the United States, has been appointed president of the Santiago Bank. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Apr 78 PY]

CENTRAL BANK LOANS--The GAZETTE reports today that the Central Bank authorizes loans and investment associations to contract credits abroad and to carry out other kind of operations, all of them related to the development of construction. [Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 26 Apr 78 PY]

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--The Economy Ministry has reported that the consumer price index for April rose 2.6 percent, the lowest increase in the last 11 years. The report adds that the inflation rate from April 1977 to April 1978 was 44.6 percent, the lowest since 1972. [Santiago Chile Radio Agricultura in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 May 78 PY]

BORDER WITH ECUADOR CLOSED DUE TO DISTURBANCES IN IPIALES

PA041832Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1607 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] Ipiales, Colombia, 4 May (AFP)--The Colombian-Ecuadorean border was closed this morning as a result of street disturbances yesterday in Ipiales, Narino Department.

Authorities, who decided to decree martial law in the city as well as a curfew and a ban on liquor sales, reported that 7 civilians and 10 policemen were injured, 4 civilians seriously, and about 20 persons arrested. Among those under arrest is Councilman Heraldo Romero, a leader of the Independent Workers Revolutionary Movement (MOIR-communist).

A meeting held by a civil committee to protest power rates deteriorated into a rock-throwing incident against policemen and state and commercial establishements. Policemen were stationed along the Rumichaca International Bridge, which connects Equador and Colombia, to prevent the transit of cars as a precautionary measure, authorities said.

Border Reopened Following Disturbances

PA041933Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] Ipiales, Colombia--The Colombian-Ecuadorean border was reopened this morning and vehicular traffic returned to normal following yesterday's violent street disturbances here which forced the authorities to impose a curfew and a ban on the sale of alcoholic beverages.

The city has been placed under military rule to prevent further disorders. Councilman Heraldo Romero and Carlos Pantoja, leaders of a foiled civic strike who were arrested during yesterday's disturbances, will be brought before a special judge. Meanwhile, police patrols have been posted on the Rumichaca International Bridge to prevent sabotage of motor vehicles.

Some stores reopened this morning and urban transportation is almost normal. The curfew and the ban on liquor sales are still in effect.

BOMB DAMAGES VEHICLES IN CALI 3 MAY

PA040227Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2135 GMT 3 May 78 PA

[Text] Cali, Colombia, 3 May (EFE)--The central police station has reported that a powerful bomb today destroyed a Colombian civil defense station wagon and damaged several private automobiles parked in a busy street of this departmental capital.

The explosion blew the vehicle to pieces. Just minutes before, Capt Enrique Valencia had parked the car at the fire department. He was not injured.

The doors and chassis of other vehicles parked in the area were damaged by the explosion which caused panic in northern Cali.

In Yumbo, the third most important city in Valle del Cauca Department, a dynamite bomb damaged the home of Alberto Marin, executive of the Cementos del Valle plant.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS CLOSED SCHOOLS REOPENED

PA050326Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0227 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 4 May (EFE)--The two capital city high schools that were closed by the government in early April resumed operation today when the term of closure ended. The Mejia and Montufar high schools, with a student body of about 7,500 students, were closed in the wake of violent street incidents which took place in Quito in the first few days of April to protest a 40-percent increase in urban transportation fares. At the request of the parents of the two high schools, supported by student and labor organizations, the government reconsidered its decision. The government measure meant that the students would automatically lose the school year.

NEW FINANCE MINISTER OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FUTURE

PA042040Y Quito La Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] New Ecuadorean Finance and Public Credit Minister Juan Reyna was sworn in at the presidential palace in Quito. After the ceremony, the finance minister told the press: [begin Reyna recording] The supreme chief of government has honored me with this appointment. Now, after being sworn in, I am sure that I will do everything possible to take measures that will directly benefit the Ecuadorean people, the people to whom I am responsible, the people who the Supreme Council of Government wants to progress, advance and enjoy an atmosphere of peace, especially now, when elections are in sight. All Ecuadoreans should have conviction and assurance that this country's progress is certain, that it has a promising future, but that we have to work for it. Possibly I will meet with the press tomorrow at a longer press conference in which we can discuss matters in more detail. However, I could answer a question or two now.

[Question] Mr Minister, how do you assess the fiscal situation at the beginning of your administration?

[Answer] Actually, the situation should be considered from several viewpoints. There are several phenomena which influence the financial situation. For example, in countries such as ours which depend on external factors such as the international prices of our export products, there are times when the prices of those products on the international market decline, and this directly affects the nation's fiscal revenues. This is what has happened in the recent past. But, with much pleasure, I would like to announce that petroleum sales are recovering noticeably and that, for example, the May oil export quota was negotiated in April. You can see that the oil marketing conditions have improved. Of course we are going to continue that policy in coordination with the Natural Resources Ministry so that our market will continue to be secure. You must understand that Alaskan oil and the presence of Mexico as an other oil producer have prevented the Ecuadorean Government from selling its oil on the international market. Also, we lost our natural market, our neighbor, Peru. Peru is now self-sufficient as far as petroleum is concerned. Consequently, it has been difficult for our government to market its oil. But obviously, through the successful negotiations of the Natural Resources Ministry, this market [as heard] is recovering nicely.

Regarding the balance of payments, over the short term, as of 3 May, we have a surplus of $8 million. Oil sales during the period January to 26 April 1978, compared with the same period last year, registered an increase of $3 million. Consequently, I am sure that this important source of fiscal revenue will improve the budget deficit situation. I do not deny that there will be a deficit, I cannot give you a specific figure but it will be a deficit within acceptable limits for a nation in the process of development. [end recording]

APRISTA PARTY ISSUES POLITICAL DECLARATION

PA041820Y Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 30 Apr 78 p 4 PA

[Political Declaration of Peruvian Aprista Party issued in Lima on 25 April]

[Text] 1. In its political declaration of 21 August 1977, the Peruvian Aprista Party [PAP] ratified its support and endorsement of a constituent assembly proposed by the party's leader on 18 February 1972 and called for by the armed forces government on 28 July 1977, considering it to be the "first step toward the total and definite normalization of the country." The party emphasized that "the constituent assembly is a supreme manifestation of popular sovereignty and cannot be restricted, compromised or interfered with." Aprism's acceptance of the constituent assembly has nad a clearly stabilizing effect. The Peruvian democratic opening thus acquired a firmness reinforced by the subsequent acceptance of other political groups--even those which derided democratic elections--the reestablishment of constitutional guarantees and the general amnesty, also sought by our party. In this way Aprism, with generosity and without rancor, fulfilled its historic mission of providing democratic guidance.

2. However, the laws regulating the elections, which were issued weeks later, and the behavior of the National Electoral Tribunal have caused justified alarm which has been reflected faithfully by Aprism through its party leader in large rallies and which is now transmitted to the country by the National Executive Committee in this declaration. Five weeks from the elections, while there is still time to correct the situation and prevent an unjustifiable disappointment in national expectations, the Aprista Party patriotically asks the armed forces to eliminate all measures and circumstances which lead to the belief that a censurable intention to commit fraud exists.

3. As soon as the election law was issued, the party of the people proceeded to present its well-founded objections. In a systematic procedure which revealed its prejudice, the National Electoral Tribunal and the government proceeded to turn them down. We cite the following cases:

A. The party of the people asked for the elimination of the so-called "preferential vote." The petition was denied.

B. The party asked that constituents be protected with the supreme guarantee of not being subject to dictates according to the provisions of Article 92 of the constitution in force. The request was denied.

C. The people's party asked that the credentials given to the representative be on plain paper and not on taxed paper in order to impose upon parties an "electoral tax." The petition was denied.

D. The party of the people asked that instead of drawing lots to break a tie within a list, the order of precedence on the list be respected. The request was denied.

E. The party of the people asked that all government employees running for the constituent assembly be given 60 days paid leave before the elections. The request was denied.

F. The party of the people asked that if the identity of an elector were challenged, the decision regarding that challenge be made by the provincial commissions and only in case of an appeal by the National Electoral Tribunal. The request was denied.

G. The party of the people asked that indelible ink be used to guarantee honest voting. The request was denied.

H. The party of the people asked that Peruvians residing abroad, who are quantitatively and qualitatively significant, be allowed to vote in consulates and embassies as is the customary practice in democratic countries. The request was denied.

I. The party of the people asked that the candidates who are university professors not be obliged to ask for leave because they are protected by Article 18 and especially by Article 99, Paragraph 4 of the present constitution, inasmuch as their appointment is not made by the executive branch but by independant institutions such as the universities. The request was denied.

J. The party of the people asked that the system of double preferential voting be adopted as a more convenient method. The request was denied.

4. Peru's return to representative democracy after 11 years without elections and the entrance into the electorate of millions of new voters require that the elections be conducted through simple and easy systems with which the citizenry is familiar.

It was preferred instead to establish an exotic system, created for foreign situations quite different from ours and, even then, applied only in limited electoral districts and never on a national level, as they seek to do here in the case of the constituent assembly elections.

What is sought by the application of this system? Mr Oswaldo Corpancho O'Donell, foremost official of the National Electoral Tribunal, answered this question without hesitation when he claimed that the objective is to break the power structure [cupula] of the party.

It is obvious, of course, that the aforementioned bureaucrat lacks the authorization or power to determine to what end or specific purpose an electoral system is used--not even the de facto government can do this, and if it did it would be doing so without any right or authorization--and it is necessary to bear in mind that the only ones qualified to ratify or change a party "structure" by virtue of sovereignty are the party's own members, be it through internal elections or by changing parties. The parties are historic, organic structures and constitute an essential factor of democratic legitimacy. To try rendering them anarchic contradicts the objectives of the announced transfer of power to civilians. It is not understood, on the one hand, how the government can ask the parties to send "their best men to the constitutent assembly," but on the other hand, favor the weakening of the parties' structures and even the appointment of political representatives by a drawing similar to that used in horserace pools. The values of order based on liberty also exist in and rule civilian organizations.

5. Basically, through the denial of the aforementioned, the government is trying to undermine and reduce the number of votes for the Peruvian Aprista Party, thus obtaining an assembly devoid of solid political support and subject to disruptive behavior by totalitarian leftist groups. With an anarchic, divided assembly turned into soapbox for childish or senseless demagogy, the path would be open to a return to the governments of force. And this is an experience which Peru does not want and should not permit at all. The country wants a democratic, strong, stable, dynamic and constructive regime. And its first requisite is a free and sovereign assembly with solid and democratic majority support. The electoral system imposed by the military government, which lacks any experience in the matter, openly works against this objective.

6. The PAP, certain of its popular support as evidenced in the mass mobilizations throughout the country, strongly centers "an intent to commit fraud" with an irrevocable, lofty, and authentic "intent to vote." Against the intrigues and dealings, against a traditionally anti-Aprista court, which is trying to tell parties how they must vote, the PAP offers its courage, calmness, enthusiasm, organization and guiding discipline. Our list, the C list, and its number one candidate, Haya de la Torre, despite the tricks and maneuvers, will garner the majority of votes.

But it fulfills its duty in advising the armed forces government of the irregular conditions in which it seeks to hold the elections and seriously invites it to correct the plans that have been pointed out and to pave the way, without delay, for democratic elections which will truly represent the "total participation" of the citizens in electing their legal representatives to the constituent assembly on 4 June.

Lima, 25 April 1978

[Signed] For the National Executive Committee: Luis Alberto Sanchez, president of the political committee; Armando Villanueva del Campo, Andres Townsend Ezcurra, Ramiro Priale Priale, Juana Castro de Silva, Alfonso Ramos Alva, Luis Negreiros Criado, Carlos Roca Caceres, Jesus Guzman Gallardo, Juan Manuel Ontaneda Meyer, secretaries general, and Carlos Roca Caceres, secretary general.

40,000-TON FISH CATCH REPORTED LAST WEEK

PY2615187 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Apr 78 PY

[Text] The Peruvian minister of fisheries has announced that over 40,000 tons of fish have been captured in a single week of operations. He said that this catch will be used to produce fish oil and flour. Rear Adm Francisco Mariategui indicated that this catch was brought in by 60 fishing boats which are currently carrying out selective fishing which will be expanded in accordance with the growth of species.

With regard to the sale of shares of [names indistinct] fishing enterprises to private buyers, Admiral Mariategui said that offers have already been received for the first of them, while the ministry is still studying the possibility of selling the shares of the other company.

BRIEFS

FRG PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY--A fund will be formed with an initial FRG contribution of 6.5 million soles and an equal amount from Peruvian banks and small industrialists to serve as a guarantee for loans by small industrialists from the Industrial Bank, the Commercial Bank and other financial institutions. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Apr 78 PY]

AERONAUTICS MINISTER INSPECTION TOUR--Lt Gen Jorge Tamayo de la Flor, aeronautics minister and commander of the Peruvian Air Force, returned yesterday to Lima after an inspection tour of the air force units in southern Peru. On his arrival at Lima air force base he stated his satisfaction with the role played by the units in the southern region of the country. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Apr 78 PY]

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PA041611Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] Austrian Foreign Minister Dr Willibald Pahr has arrived in our country for an official 5-day visit. He was greeted at Simon Bolivar International Airport by acting Foreign Minister Dr Jose Gomez Mandelini, by the Austrian ambassador to Venezuela and by Yellow House officials.

The Austrian foreign minister will meet with President of the Republic Carlos Andres Perez and with his Venezuelan colleague, Dr Simon Alberto Consalvi. He will also meet with Dr Gonzalo Barrios, president of the National Congress, and with other personalities.

During his visit to Venezuela, Dr Pahr will exchange points of view on the problems of Latin America and the Third World. He will also try to establish bilateral agreements covering economic, cultural and technical cooperation.

INTERIOR MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGES GUERRILLA PROBLEM

PA050324Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0022 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 4 May (EFE)--Venezuelan Interior Minister Octavio Lepage today admitted that guerrillas control a certain area in eastern Venezuela but added that their forces are having a minimal impact.

Lepage revealed that many important individuals of what he termed the rearguard of the insurgent groups have been arrested. He did not specify how many.

Nevertheless, he admitted that none of those directly involved in the latest armed attack has been captured yet. In that attack, which occurred on Saturday in the village of El Saman in Anzoategui State, one soldier was killed and an officer was wounded during an ambush staged by 15 guerrillas.

The minister stressed that the armed groups are using surprise attacks, and he added that so far it has not been easy to eliminate them due to their mobility and their complete knowledge of the terrain acquired from their lengthy stay in the area.

Regarding power blackouts in large areas of the country and the rupturing of a pipeline which left half of Caracas without water, Lepage did not rule out that these might be actions conducted by guerrillas but he said that it would not be advisable to make wild guesses.

Regarding an alleged siege of Venezuela by international criminals, the minister said that since the country is wealthy and has a system of open democracy this attracts persons of all kinds of backgrounds, including adventurers.

U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

Vance Comments on Visit

FL042226Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2131 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 4 May (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Bringing a greetings message from President Carter and his wife Rosalynn "to the first family of Mexico," U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance arrived in the Mexican capital last night for a 24-hour official visit. Vance stated that with his "friend" Mexican Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel "we will examine the achievements made in strengthening the ties between our two countries," and that "the work we do together to prepare for the UN meeting on disarmanment is just one of the many examples I can cite."

"It is an honor to participate in this new examination of the constructive work begun by Presidents Lopez-Portillo and Carter in February [words indistinct]. The secretary of the State Department [words indistinct] impressive security measures.

Roel Defines Issues

PA050137Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2254 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 4 May (EFE)--Many of Mexico's problems stem from its proximity to the United States, Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel affirmed here today as he opened a meeting with U.S. counterpart Cyrus Vance.

Nonetheless, Roel stressed that in the last year relations between the two countries have improved noticeably, due to the establishment of a consultation mechanism that has resulted in "surprising achievements."

Mexico and the United States share various international objectives such as freedom and justice, Roel noted. We have finally found a formula to carry out teamwork in a "climate of interdependence" rather than dependence, he added.

After underscoring Mexican respect for U.S. domestic policy, Roel mentioned that during Vance's visit a treaty on extradition and another one concerning the promotion of tourism will be signed.

Regarding the negotiations for the purpose of Mexican natural gas by the United States Roel indicated that Mexico "would consider" renewing its offer once the U.S. Congress has concluded its debates on a new energy law.

As regards undocumented workers, he said that the issue must be examined from all angles and that both countries will exchange information on the subject and will strengthen their border cooperation to fight illegal immigration and the falsification of documents.

After announcing that a new extradition tready will be signed, Roel indicated that discussions are already underway for a similar document on legal affairs and the mutual return of stolen cars and planes.

The two foreign ministers also examined issues connected with border-area cooperation in the fields of environment, health and culture and concerning ways to handle future oil spills in territorial waters.

Vance is scheduled to meet with President Jose Lopez-Portillo before concluding the part of his visit to Mexico. Afterward, he will go to Puerto Vallarta, a recreational center on the Pacific.

Three Agreements Signed

PA050234Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0132 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 4 May (AFP)--It has been officially announced that Mexico and the United States signed here today three agreements dealing with extradition, marine boundaries and tourism.

The signing of these documents is one of the results of the talks held here today by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Mexican Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel.

The new extradition treaty replaces the one of 1899, modernizing it with the inclusion of new crimes such as airplane hijacking and smuggling of archaeological treasures. The treaty also includes more extensive definitions on the crime of drug trafficking, which is one of the main problems in the relations between the two countries.

The sea boundary treaty delineates the various delimitations of sovereignty between 12 and 200 nautical miles and contains precise details to prevent fishing boats of the two nations from committing involuntary "incursions."

The tourism agreement is directed mainly at increasing tourism between the two countries and attracting tourists from their countries.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL042204Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2129 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 4 May (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Austrian Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr has stated here that "Austria is (?interested) in Mexican petroleum, and friendship is the fundamental goal of my visit, the base from which to support reciprocal cooperation in developing the areas of hydroelectric energy, steel production, solar energy and hydrocarbons."

The foreign minister held a press conference at the Austrian Embassy in Mexico and explained that, nevertheless, any petroleum transaction between the two countries should take into consideration fuel transportation, [word indistinct] to ports at high altitudes, which up until now does not exist in Mexico.

The Austrian foreign minister stated additionally that the greatest portion of trade between his country and Mexico is triangular in form and not direct, citing coffee as one of the best examples.

Pahr stated that the trade balance between the two countries presently favors Mexico, and that in the area of petroleum, Austria at present only produces 20 percent of its needs and imports the rest from Iraq. This is the reason for the interest in Mexican petroleum.

PRESIDENT LAKAS REPORTEDLY TO VISIT CHILE 19 MAY

PA050300Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] Chilean President Gen Augusto Pinochet told this station's general news director Mario Velasquez this morning that Panamanian President Demetrio Basilio Lakas will pay an official visit to Santiago, Chile, on 19 May.

During an exclusive interview which the Chilean president gave director Velasquez for the program "Enfoques," which is aired every Tuesday evening at 2130, President Pinochet confirmed President Lakas' visit to Santiago, Chile. He noted that the two presidents will discuss hemispheric problems.

PANAMENISTS ASK CARTER NOT TO ATTEND TREATY CEREMONY

PA050248Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] The Panamenist Party sent a cable to President Jimmy Carter today urging the American President not to come to Panama for the exchange of ratification documents ceremony. In the three-paragraph cable, the Panamenists support the views of university professor Dr Cesar Quintero which, according to the Panamenist Party members, are shared by almost all Panamanians.

According to the Panamenists, Carter's presence at the ceremony will constitute interference by the American President in Panama's domestic affairs.

In the meantime, a Panamenist Party delegation will go to Miami, Florida, tomorrow to meet with party directors to set a date and determine the route through which Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid will return to Panama. A note signed by party press secretary Guillermo Endara and dated in Panama City today says that the Panamenist Party delegation is composed of leaders from the various provinces, although it does not specify the number or names of the people who will go to Miami.

PROMINENT PANAMENIST PARTY MEMBER RETURNS FROM EXILE

PA041939Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 4 May 78 p 28 PA

[From "La Illorona" column]

[Text] Chinchorro Carles [Ruben Dario Carles, prominent Panamenist Party member] quietly arrived in the country on Monday night. He traveled from the north on the same flight as Anel Veliz. He was greeted at Tocumen airport by personal friends and relatives.

BRIEFS

OIL TERMINAL FINANCING--Luis Moreno, president of the National Banking Association, has announced that international banks will finance $36 million of the $47 million oil terminal to be built in Puerto Armuelles, Chiriqui Province. Moreno added that in Chiriqui international banks are engaged in financing various industrial, livestock, agriculture, and housing projects. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 May 78 PA]

COSTA RICA

ASSEMBLY VOTES AGAINST VESCO NATURALIZATION

PA041931Y San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 1220 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The entire Costa Rican Legislative Assembly has voted against Robert Vesco's naturalization. Unanimously, the assembly asked the office of adoptions and naturalization of the civil registry and the Supreme Electoral Tribunal to reject Vesco's application for Costa Rican citizenship.

The motion has been described as historic. It was supported from the beginning by the deputies of the National Liberation Party [PLN], and its approval followed a debate in which the deputies of the Unity Party played a very active role.

The PLN deputies were congratulated by the Unity Party deputies for their attitude. Also, Rodolfo Cerdas, Marxist deputy for the Popular Front, said that the entire country should congratulate itself for the attitude that had been adopted by the PLN deputies who, in his opinion, must have had to overcome the opposition of large groups within their own party to vote against Vesco's request for naturalization.

GUATEMALA

TROOPS SENT TO NORTH AFTER GUERRILLAS

PA042246Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2140 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 4 May (ACAN-EFE)--Airborne troops of the Guatemalan Army were sent today to the northern departments of Quiche and Huehuetenango where guerrilla camps have been discovered.

The "Tauro" tactical group is taking part in the military operation. It was transported to the area aboard Guatemalan Air Force planes.

MUNICIPAL WORKERS BEGIN STRIKE FOR HIGHER WAGES

PA042245Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2142 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 4 May (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan municipal workers today began their seventh strike of the past 2 years for higher wages. The municipality's 6,000 workers declared a strike today at 0800 and paralyzed all public services provided by municipal government offices.

According to Guatemala City Mayor Leonel Ponceano Leon, the municipality's difficult financial situation makes it impossible to grant the 50-percent salary increase demanded by the workers.

NICARAGUA

VIOLENCE BREAKS OUT AT MANAGUA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

PA050133Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0115 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 May (LATIN)--There was spraying of machinegun fire and explosions of tear gas grenades and homemade bombs tonight near the Managua campus of the National Autonomous University during a clash between hundreds of university students and about 40 National Guardsmen.

The students staged a rally to mark the 42d anniversary of the date on which Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino took to the hills to begin his guerrilla war against American occupation forces in Nicaragua. When several students left the campus, they hurled contact bombs and molotov cocktails at the nearby patrols.

The incidents followed almost immediately afterward. Patrolmen hurled tear gas grenades at the students, who threw them back. However, shortly thereafter the guardsmen began to fire their machineguns, whereupon opposition radio stations began calling for the Red Cross to intervene. An hour later National Guard detachments surrounded the campus, with several hundred students and professors inside.

STUDENTS HARASS PRO-SOMOZA INFORMERS AT UNIVERSITY

PA041511Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Students at the National University have been shaving the heads of students who are government informers and smearing them with paint. Last night they shaved one such informer after beating and stoning him. The students have launched a campaign against pro-Somoza students who have been informing on various university groups.

INTERIOR MINISTER: STUDENTS SEEK TO CREATE MARTYRS

PA041442Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Government and Interior Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz has said that high school students are trying to create some martyrs in order to cause trouble for the government and that, for this reason, measures are being considered to curb their illegal activities. Alvarez made the statement in view of the series of demonstrations the students have staged throughout the country.

He noted that the government has answered the students' demands in all cases and that the problems they have raised are in the process being solved. The students' arguments are unfair; what they seek is a confrontation with the police so they can create some martyrs whom they can use as symbols, the minister said.

Alvarez said that the government will have to take action because the students have blocked traffic and strewn thumbtacks at various places. [Words indistinct] the students have gone to the extreme of getting into fistfights with busdrivers. Traffic was blocked yesterday at Second Avenue and Ninth Street in this capital's downtown section. The official feels that the student demonstrations may be offshoots of the 5 February elections and that they are, therefore, politically motivated.

SOMOZA ADDRESS TO WORKERS ON LABOR DAY

PA041719Y Managua NOVEDADES in Spanish 2 May 78 pp 2, 3 PA

[Speech by President Anastasio Somoza Debayle on International Labor Day delivered in Managua's main plaza]

[Excerpts] Your excellencies, members of the branches of government; ministers and vice ministers of state; representatives of the General Labor Confederation; Mr Vicente Mendoza, representative of Nicaraguan laborers; Mr Dionisio Reyes Munguia, representative of the Nicaraguan peasants; workers throughout Nicaragua, radio listeners and television viewers:

Once again, we, the workers of Nicaragua, have gathered in this plaza to celebrate International Labor Day, the day of Nicaraguan workers. I have said before that I am interested in a face-to-face dialog, not only with those who share my beliefs, but also with my adversaries, and that I seek to talk in public plazas as well as in homes or anywhere else in the republic.

During the recent rally on 26 February, I demonstrated to the Nicaraguan people the willingness of the Nationalist Liberal Party [PLN] to adjust our laws to the social, political and economic conditions required for our country's development by offering, for the benefit of the workers, to create a fund for the purchase of lands in order to enable the farmer to acquire land with the backing of government guarantees. I also offered to extend social security benefits to a greater number of workers, including the rural worker; to permit free labor union organization; to establish a civil service law, and to pay a Christmas bonus.

In this manner the PLN is in the vanguard whenever there is an opportunity to improve the standard of living of all Nicaraguans. We are enjoying the broadest liberties under the republican and liberal democratic system that exists in our country.

It is under the shelter of these liberties that reactionary capitalists have tried to subject our country to chaos and the greatest upheaval that any nation has ever had to overcome, that which we have had to overcome in Nicaragua. You did not participate in those actions which tested the Nicaraguans, the workers and the government because you realized that management would be the only beneficiary, and only you would be injured. Therefore, it is proper that as a man I should thank you for the brave patriotism you demonstrated during the partial strike in January. Keep in mind that the wages for the unworked time were paid because the government demanded compliance with the labor laws that benefit you, the workers, just as we will comply with all the laws of the republic.

With the failure of that political movement the businessmen now plan to pursue their aims through plans for terrorism and subversion carried out by local communists who are following international orders. They are trying to incite our citizens and youths to commit acts of vandalism such as burning buses and residences, using incendiary bombs and taking over churches and schools, thereby almost wasting the school year.

Gentlemen, the great majority of Nicaraguan workers do not agree with this subversion, and we must reject and condemn it.

Here today, this solemn day, Labor Day, I become your delegate to maintain peace and order in Nicaragua because it is not fair that the weakest--the workers--should suffer because of subversion by the rich and the communists. It is not fair that politicians outside Nicaragua should seek to overthrow the government with bombs, blood, fear, propaganda and campaigns which serve only to disrupt order.

It is a fallacy to pretend that human rights will glow in the midst of chaos and anarchy. It is a fallacy to pretend that a poor people will have freedom if there is no peace and tranquillity. It is a fallacy to seek to place the U.S. shoe on Nicaraguan feet. We all have our historical moment, we all experience it, and we must all defend ourselves, because it is by means of peace, liberty and liberalism that Nicaragua will surpass all the peoples of the world.

This great assembly is demonstrating the bravery of the Liberals and the democratic men of Nicaragua who do not fear the threats of foreign governments and the rich who have allied themselves with those governments. On the contrary, the Liberals are men who fight for their ideals and are willing, as I am, to face up to the situation, to take up arms to maintain Nicaragua's public freedoms. We are going to bring all those men who are sowing unrest under control through the use of the law, while practicing democracy.

It is not by acts of terrorism, by sowing hatred, terror or reprisals, by promoting violence or destroying private or public property that we will achieve national concord. The fatherland is built by working and by teaching love and respect for one's compatriots.

Consistent with its liberal principles and ideology, my party has always promoted labor union freedom, which I offered in the 26 February rally and which will become a reality during the next sessions of the National Congress. In this plaza I promised to establish the triparitie commission which Comrade Mendoza requested in his speech that preceded mine. The draft amendments which will provide for free labor organization expressly state that no one can be forced to join a union or be prevented from joining one. In this manner the worker is completely free to make the decision. It is sad to see how, in these days of political agitation, the unions (?have been) manipulated by the communists.

They have sacrificed their members by launching them into strikes for purely political objectives instead of concerning themselves with bettering the working and the economic conditions of their members.

Thanks to my efforts as president, under the law of free union organization proposed to the Congress, the monopoly of those unions manipulated by communists will come to an end. Under this law carpenters, plumbers or any other group of workers could form their own unions irresponsibly to their members, to strikes, not to obtain better and more beneficial working conditions, but rather exclusively for political purposes. [sentence as published]

Aware of the changes that must be made in the labor area to adapt legislation to the socioeconomic conditions of our country, we have made several changes in the labor code for the benefit of the workers.

It is a wonderful thing that on this day, on this platform, workers can be here making demands of the government while the president is here to listen to them and is willing to heed their requests. Let the communists tell me whether this is permitted by Fidel Castro or by Brezhnev in Russia. It is unheard of for the workers to demand social benefits in communist countries. Moreover, if they do, they are violently suppressed. Let us remember Czechoslovakia, which has twice been occupied by Russian armed forces because the Czechoslvaks are more progressive people than the Russians, and the Russians do not wish to have anyone rise above their level.

International communism from Moscow and Castro's communism from Havana, in conjunction with communists infiltrated into the international press, by trying to overthrow the constitutional government I head, have tried to deprive you Nicaraguan workers of your democratic freedoms--those freedoms which are proclaimed in the UN Charter of the rights of man, freedoms which all men enjoy in this country.

We are gathered here because we share the freedom to assemble; we have freedom of movement, freedom of association, freedom of beliefs, freedom of opinion and freedom to be informed of the truth. None of these freedoms is enjoyed by the people of communist countries because these freedoms have been denied or curtailed in line with the communist doctrine, which only established obligations that the communist states impose for the convenience of a few. That doctrine does not grant the freedoms which we Nicaraguans enjoy and take advantage of in our country every day.

I hereby make special mention of our brothers, the soldiers of the Nicaraguan National Guard, who work to achieve order, peace and tranquillity for all Nicaraguans. I pay them the greatest tribute for their cooperation and their maintenance of our democratic institutions. I hereby also recognize all government authorities who have demonstrated their patience and their understanding during the period of agitation which we have experienced.

Gentlemen, on this International Labor Day, let us devote ourselves to our work. Only in peace can the family progress, and the progress of the family means the glory of Nicaragua. Long live the workers! Long live Nicaragua! Thank you very much.

140 STUDENTS, WORKERS, WOMEN RELEASED

PA050128Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2310 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Approximately 140 persons under arrest have been released during the past few days. They include workers arrested on 1 May, International Labor Day, students, student leaders and 15 young women.

CONGRESS APPOINTS THREE PRESIDENTIAL ALTERNATES

PA042004Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1720 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Yesterday the National Congress appointed three presidential alternates [designados a la presidencia] who can function as president in the event Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle is absent from the presidency. The Congress did this before beginning a 3-week recess. The three appointed alternates are Pablo Ray del Valle, Francisco [name indistinct] and Ramiro Granero Padilla. The three are members of the legislative branch and belong to the Nationalist Liberal Party, the governing party.

During the congressional recess President Somoza will be able to legislate on all matters except that he will not have the authority to impose taxes. Once the next congressional session begins, President Somoza will report on his government activities.

CONGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN HAVANA

FL041045Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1039 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] Theophile Obenga, People's Republic of the Congo foreign affairs minister, arrived in Havana City a few hours ago at the head of a delegation in response to an official invitation from the Cuban Government. The delegation was received at Jose Marti International Airport by Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malimierca. The Congolese foreign minister also was welcomed by Vital Balla, People's Republic of Congo ambassador to our country, and by Foreign Ministry deputy ministers, directors and officials.

Theophile Obenga will hold talks with government officials and will visit places of historic and recreational interest in our country.

Tribute to Marti

FL041715Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] Theophile Obenga, People's Republic of Congo foreign affairs minister, who has been in our country since last night, this morning laid a floral wreath at the Jose Marti monument in Revolution Plaza. During their stay in Cuba, Obenga and his delegation will meet with government officials and visit places of historic and recreational interest.

Official Talks Begin

FL041719Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] Official talks between the foreign ministers of Cuba and People's Republic of Congo, Isidoro Malmierca and Theophile Obenga respectively, began this morning at the Foreign Ministry. Deputy Foreign Ministers Rene Anillo and Jose Fernandez Cossio; Oscar Oramas, Foreign Ministry director of Africa and the Middle East; and Cuban Ambassador to the Congo Arquidedes Columbie participated in the talks for the Cuban side. Vital Balla, People's Republic of the Congo ambassador to our country, also participated in the meeting.

HAVANA CITES ANGOLAN DEFENSE MINISTER ON CUBAN TROOPS

PA050244Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] Angolan Defense Minister Henrique Carreira has told the Mexican magazine SIEMPRE that Cuba will not withdraw its troops from Angola until the government of that African country decides to. Carreira explained that the Angolan Armed Forces' capacity satisfies domestic needs but that internationalist support would be needed if the country were attacked again.

The Angolan defense minister added that the recent mopping-up operation in Cuando Cubango Province against counterrevolutionary groups of the National Front for the Liberation of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola was conducted by five battalions. With the support of helicopters, he went on, these batallions surrounded and eliminated the enemy in several quick operations.

According to Carreira, the militias that make up the popular defense organization, composed of civilians determined to defend their villages and work centers, also participated in these operations against the counterrevolutionary groups.

In his interview with the Mexican Magazine, Commander Carreira added that the existence of a free Ethiopia is important for the strengthening of Angola's position in southern Africa, but he warned that, with the manufacture of the atomic bomb in South Africa and the installation of a missile range [poligono coheteril] in Zaire, the African Continent is under the threat of a nuclear war.

COMMENTARY VIEWS ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

FL041026Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Excerpts] Last Thursday, 27 April, the telegraph lines brought to the world news that the Afghan government had been overthrown. Afghanistan--located in Central Asia, comprising 647,497 square km and over 19 million inhabitants--borders on the USSR, Pakistan, India, Iran and China. Last Thursday the radio in Kabul, the Afghan capital, announced the overthrow of Daud and stated that for the first time in the history of Afghanistan all power had passed into the hands of the people. Days before the events which brought the end to the Daud government, on 17 April the veteran labor leader and member of the Parchum Communist Party Central Committee, Aqbar Khabir, was assassinated in Kabul. Thousands of people gathered at Khabir's funéral to demonstrate against the Daud government, which they blamed for the crime. The police arrested the principal communist leaders, among them the present chairman, Mohammad Taraki. New protest demonstrations occurred, one of them in front of the North American Embassy, and Daud unleashed a brutal repression in which it was stated 200 people died.

The revolt erupted and a group of young progressive military men took power. They freed the arrested communist leaders and created a Revolutionary Council with Mohammed Taraki elected unanimously as chairman of National Revolutionary Council in charge of a government cabinet composed of 21 ministers and 3 first vice ministers.

The new Afghan Government has proclaimed the country to be the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and has stated that it will continue in the ranks of the nonalined countries movement. It celebrated May Day, congratulating the Afghan and all workers of the world, and declared it a festive date to be commemorated from now on as the day of the victorious liberation.

The USSR, which since 1919 has maintained good relations with the people of Afghanistan and has given solidarity aid to that country, was the first state to recognize the government of Mohammed Taraki. The positive sign of the new Afghan Government is corroborated by the Iranian regime's concern, the Washington government's reservation, British diplomatic irritation and the displeasure of the Chinese governing clique, who believe it dangerous that the leader of the new government is a communist.

For all the above reasons, we Cuban revolutionaries are pleased to salute this deed and congratulate the Afghan people and their revolutionary government for this step forward in the struggle for that fraternal people's liberation and progress.

CUBAN-SOVIET CONFERENCE HELD ON VICTORY OVER FASCISM

FL050157Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Text] A joint scientific conference on the 33d anniversary of the USSR victory over fascism was held this afternoon at the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] Gen Maximo Gomez Academy. The activity was presided over by Brig Gen Calixto Garcia, PCC Central Committee member and chief of the PCC's Military Department; and Lt Gen Sergey Krivoplyasov, chief of the Soviet military specialists in Cuba. The opening remarks at the joint conference were made by Col Juan B. Pujol Sanchez, chief of the FAR Maximo Gomez Academy; opening the two sessions held were Major General (Seitsev) and Col Jose Palacios Suarez. The closing remarks at the event were made by Col Manuel Penado Casanova.

[begin Penado Casanova recording] During this conference we have listened intently to presentations which have explained, with high scientific quality, the universal historical significance of the victory over fascism. Today all of progressive humanity celebrates that important event which ended the odious fascist regime in Europe and allowed, thanks to the USSR's internationalist policy, the liberation of other peoples from the Nazi-fascist yoke, permitting those countries to achieve the right to build a better future. [end recording]

PINEIRO HOLDS MEETING WITH CHILEAN LEADER

FL041347Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1325 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] Manual Pineiro, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of its America Department, has met with (Jose Miguel Insulsa), who is in charge of the foreign committee of the Chilean popular unity, workers and peasants action movement. During the meeting, which was held in our capital, matters of international interest, especially those concerning the political situation in the South American country, were discussed.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS MINISTRY COUNCIL ESTABLISHED

FL041655Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1642 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] A technical advisory council for the Construction Materials Industry Ministry was created this morning. The council is composed of 22 members from that ministry and other organizations of that sector. The new consultative agency is headed by (Jose Pelayos Suarez Lanzada), deputy minister of the construction materials industry. Construction Materials Industry Minister Jose Valle Roque introduced the council members. Valle Roque presided over the ceremony which also was attended by deputy ministers, directors, officials and technicians of various organizations.

The technical advisory council is primary function is to study and work out recommendations relating to the production of construction materials and development of science and technology in this industrial field.

OFFICE FOR SERVICING PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT ORGANS CREATED

FL041128Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] The Council of Ministers Executive Committee during its last meeting approved the creation of an Office for Servicing Local People's Government Organs which will function under that executive and administrative organ. Comrade Faustino Perez, member of the PCC Central Committee and deputy to the National People's Government Assembly, was named chief of that office at the recommendation of the PCC Politburo.

The functions of the Office for Servicing Local People's Government Organs include, among others, assisting the Council of Ministers, its Executive Committee and its president in the development of relations with local people's government organs and fulfilling the powers granted by the constitution [to the Council of Ministers] in connection with these organs. The office will exercise control over local people's government organs' fulfillment of orders issued by superior organs of the state administration and will see to it that relations between them are developed in accordance with established regulations. The office also will help stimulate local initiative for the fulfillment of economic plans in provinces and municipalities and improve and perfect the administrative functions of local people's government organs.

ALMEIDA VISITS SUGAR MILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION

FL041054Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1034 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] Juan Almeida Bosque, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Council of State, has toured the site of a new sugar mill under construction in Granma Province and the vegetable fields in Veguitas. On his tour of the various installations, Almeida was accompanied by Emilio Loo Hernandez, member of the PCC Central Committee and party first secretary in Granma Province.

The PCC Politburo member was interested in the status of the new sugar mill, which should be completed next year. Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida also was interested in the reports presented to him in connection with the production that is expected from the new areas planted with malanga in the Veguitas vegetable project, which is part of the "agricultural-livestock production revolution" being developed throughout the country.

MILIAN MEETS WITH VILLA CLARA COOPERATIVE MEMBERS

FL041945Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] PCC Politburo member Arnaldo Milian Castro has met with members of the governing board of the Capitan Oriente agricultural-livestock production cooperative, located in Manicaragua Municipality, Villa Clara Province. Milian was interested in the organization of the work force and land use. He was extensively briefed on the operations of the peasant cooperative since its establishment in January of this year.

In his remarks the PCC leader and Council of State member stressed the need to gather all the experiences on the new peasant production methods and told how the process of setting up cooperatives in the country is progressing.

The Capitan Oriente cooperative is made up of 143 associates organized into 6 brigades. It has 7.5 caballerias of land.

PCC CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENTS MEET IN GUANTANAMO

FL041103Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1036 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] The second national meeting of PCC construction departments has opened at the Juan Marinello publishing complex in Guantanamo City. The meeting is being chaired by PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Raul Garcia Pelaez. Members of party bureaus and chiefs of construction departments of the 14 PCC provincial committees and Isle of Pines Special Municipality are participating in this meeting of orientation, analysis and exchange of experiences.

Aldo Alvarez, chief of the PCC Central Committee Construction Department, speaking at the opening of the meeting, explained the objectives of the meeting and reported on the work done to promote industrial projects under construction throughout the country. Agustin Alemany of the PCC Central Committee Construction Department also spoke at the meeting. He referred to the personnel qualification training program and other matters.

Garcia Pelaez Closes Meeting

FL041118Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Raul Garcia Pelaez has made the closing remarks at the national meeting of PCC Central Committee construction departments held at the Juan Marinello publishing plant in Guantanamo. He said it was a magnificent thing to gather the members of the construction sector cells for the purpose of promoting construction throughout the country.

Alfonso Hodge, member of the PCC Central Committee and its first secretary in Guantanamo, also spoke at the meeting. He discussed the socioeconomic and geographic characteristics of Guantanamo and the development achieved in the construction projects in progress.

CUBA, MEXICO, COLOMBIA ELECTED TO ECOSOC BODY

FL050044Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Text] Cuba, Mexico and Colombia were today reelected as members to the administration council of the UN development program for a new 3-year period. In the election held by the Economic and Social Council [ECOSOC] to elect three Latin American members, Mexico got 37 votes, Cuba got 26 and Colombia got 30. In addition to Cuba, Mexico and Colombia, the other members of this organization are Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador and Trinidad and Tobago.

BRIEFS

TOBACCO WORKERS DAY--Tobacco workers day will be commemorated in our country for the first time on 29 May. A resolution of the Tobacco Workers Trade Union Fourth Congress is thereby fulfilled. The date, birthday anniversary of Lazaro Pena, was selected as a perpetual homage to the leader of the Cuban working class. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 May 78 FL]

COOPERATIVE MEMBERS MEETING--The first provincial meeting of women members of cooperatives has been held at the Crucero Aurora cooperative, Limonar Municipality, Matanzas Province. The meeting was chaired by PCC Central Committee members Vilma Espin and Jose Ramirez Cruz, presidents of the Cuban Women's Federation--FMC--and National Association of Small Farmers--ANAP--respectively. A report was rendered at the meeting on the work done by the FMC and ANAP to develop cooperatives. The FMC members said at the meeting that they are prepared to create job opportunities for their comrades in cooperatives. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 May 78 FL]

NEW POLYCLINIC--A community polyclinic has been inaugurated in the Grifo district of Cienfuegos. With a capacity to take care of 135,000 persons, the polyclinic has dental physiotherapy, pediatric, obstetric and laboratory services. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 May 78 FL]

JAMAICA

MANLEY SAYS IMF LOAN WILL NOT AFFECT SOCIAL POLICIES

FL011955Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Apr 78 p 21 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Michael Manley said yesterday that the negotiations for the loan from the International Monetary Fund will in no way affect Jamaica's social policies. Neither will the government retreat from its present foreign policies, he said.

Mr. Manley was addressing a gathering at Little London Secondary School yesterday at the official launching of Labour Day 1978 activities in Westmoreland.

The prime minister explained the austerity programme to meet the country's target of increased productivity. But, he said, the IMF was arguing for greater austerity than was considered necessary.

Only Fund

He said that the IMF loan was necessary to any country which runs short of foreign exchange as it is the only fund that a country could turn to for ready cash.

However, according to him, no country wanted to look for outside assistance unless it saw the necessity. Mr. Manley said that Jamaica hoped in the future to become viable economically so that there would be no case for such borrowings. The money is necessary to purchase well-needed equipment, he explained.

He said the nation must undergo sacrifice in order to increase production. One such sacrifice would be in the form of higher taxation to meet the demand of the nation.

Increased production, he said, had to be Jamaica's priority.

The prime minister noted however, that there was no way that Jamaica could produce all that was needed considering that "we did not possess minerals or oil" with which to manufacture certaingoods such as heavy duty and farming equipment.

"Many things have to come from abroad whether we like it or not. Therefore we have to find a way of earning foreign exchange to purchase the goods," he said.

More Exports

He said that the country will have to direct its attention to increasing the output of export and as such, place the country on a competitive market in this respect.

Prime Minister Manley warned the people that they would have to make many sacrifices in the months to come. He stressed, however, that sacrifice and corruption could not go together and as a result the government has taken a stand to root out the coruption in the society.

Hoarders of foreign currency and basic consumer items are to be considered corrupt and Mr. Manley called on all citizens to rout these people.

Finally, the prime minister urged all civil servants and members of parliament to work as hard as the ordinary citizen in the drive for increased production.

IMF Terms

FL012000Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Apr 78 p 1 FL

[Text] One of the terms which the International Monetary Fund is imposing on Jamaica in respect of the loan which this country is seeking from it is a requirement that the nation must bring its "housekeeping" into a better balance position.

At present, Jamaica is running a deficit on some $150-million on its current account--that is, the amount of money which it has to spend to run the country. This means that the national expenditure is running far ahead of the national income.

This is not regarded by the I.M.F. as good "housekeeping", and as a condition of any assistance which it will grant to Jamaica under the extended fund favility now being negotiated, the international agency is insisting that the deficit be wiped out.

But according to the minister of finance, the Hon. Eric Bell, this is a hard condition, having regard to the extremely bad financial position in which Jamaica now finds itself and out of which it is trying to extricate itself by way of I.M.F. assistance.

Mr. Bell said, on the JBC-TV programme "Face the Nation" on Wednesday night, that the government regarded this condition as one of the "unduly harsh" terms as it might be possible, with efforts, to reduce the deficit but not to wipe it out altogether in three years.

Answering questions on the programme, the minister said the assistance being sought was in the region of U.S. $250-million and that the negotiations were expected to be finalized "within a week".

Mr. Bell would not be drawn as to whether it was "inevitable" that Jamaica would have to accept the loan, harsh term or not. He said the negotiations were continuing.

Asked whether steps would be taken to ensure better monitoring of the use of the facility this time (as against the previous one which failed to meet certain of the targets) he said this responsibility would remain with the Bank of Jamaica.

Mr. Bell said that government's time table still called for the negotiations to be concluded by the end of this month.

Wage Curbs Called Unworkable

FL041440Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 29 Apr 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Business leaders warned the government yesterday that the limit on wage increases as proposed under the International Monetary Fund agreement could not work.

Over 30 representatives of the business community attended the meeting with the minister of labour, the Hon. William Isaacs, and the minister of state in the Ministry of Finance, Senator Richard Fletcher, at the Ministry of Labour, North Street, Kingston, to discuss the IMF plan to limit wages.

The plan, as disclosed to trade union leaders on Wednesday, is to limit all wage increases to a maximum 15 percent of the total pay bill, including managerial administrative and casual staff, effective next Monday.

The business leaders argued that unless the plan was amended to mean a limit of 15 percent on the pay bill for respective categories of workers, it would create industrial confusion.

They said that there should be an amendment to the proposal so that during wage negotiations it would only be necessary to work out 15 percent of the pay bill for specific bargaining units, or it would not work.

They also warned that the proposal would create serious problems for task rate workers and called for special considerations to be given to these workers.

Mr. Isaacs is to take the objections raised by the businessmen and the trade union leaders to the cabinet on Monday for discussions.

The wage limit is planned to become effective as of Monday and will affect all wage negotiations not concluded as of that date.

THOMPSON URGES SQUATTERS TO QUIT BAUXITE LANDS

FL011950Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 27 Apr 78 p 1 FL

[Text] National Security Minister Senator Dudley Thompson issued the following statement on Tuesday regarding the illegality of squatters on bauxite lands:

"It has been brought to my attention that in certain areas of St. Elizabeth and Manchester and in particular properties of Elphinstone, Sterling and Hollandbrook, squatters have trespassed on valuable lands and, in some cases, have even brought tractors to facilitate the seizure of these lands.

"It is not only illegal but is contrary to government's proclaimed practice of orderly development. It is not a part of government's policy to allow this. The government has taken steps pursuant to its development plans for the recovery of thousands of acres of land, a considerable amount of which had already been distributed.

"Some of these lands which have now been seized by the people are lands which have been designated by the government for the development of the Jamaican cattle industry and it is disruptive and unacceptable to have individuals attempting to act on their own.

"There are farmers who have been waiting patiently for a long time to have access to land and it would not be fair to by-pass the claims of these law-abiding citizens to satisfy others whose impatience has caused them to take the law into their own hands.

"All persons who are now trespassing illegally on these lands should understand clarly that they must remove themselves forthwith or they will be removed. All illegal planting, squatting, ploughing, etc. which have been taking place must cease forthwith, as the government will not tolerate an open breach of the law through any process of 'capture.'"

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

NUCLEAR POWER INCLUDED IN FRENCH COOPERATION PACT

FL272130Y Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 20 Apr 78 p 1 FL

[Excerpts] Development of nuclear power as an alternative source of energy is part of an economic and technical co-operation agreement between the governments of Trinidad and Tobago and France.

Signatories to the agreement signed in Paris were Senator John Donaldson, Trinidad and Tobago minister of external affairs, and French Foreign Minister Mr. Louis de Guiringuad.

A Whitehall announcement yesterday stated that the wide-ranging agreement constituted a framework for the development of relations between the two countries.

Senator Donaldson told REUTER in Paris before flying home that this was the first major agreement between France and Trinidad and Tobago "and we hope others will follow."

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRD SAYS POLICE, MILITARY INVOLVED IN ATTACKS

FL041236Y Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 May 78 FL

[Text] Jacobo Majluta last night said that the terrorist actions by the Banda Colorada are supported by police and military sectors and that this situation is the only abnormality in the electoral campaign. However, the Dominican Revolutionary Party--PRD--vice presidential candidate explained that those military and police sectors that support Banda Colorada actions do not represent the majority in the two forces.

Majluta reiterated that the attacks on PRD members by members of the Reformist Party are designed to force the PRD to withdraw from the elections which will be held next week. Majluta asserted that despite Banda Colorada terrorist actions, the PRD will participate in the elections.

The PRD vice presidential candidate further asserted that his party is prepared to go to any extreme in defense of human rights. Charging that the Banda Colorada terrorist actions are supported by police and military sectors, Majluta called on President Balaguer and [National Police Chief] Nivar Seijas to control such groups.

GUYANA

ENVOY RETURNS HOME IN CONNECTION WITH SURINAM DISPUTE

FL012020Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 27 Apr 78 p 9 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Wednesday (CANA)--Guyana's Ambassador to Surinam Sydney Saul is back in Georgetown for discussions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as efforts continued to end the dispute between the two republics over use of the Corentyne River dividing them.

A radio report from Surinam monitored here yesterday said that Mr. Saul had returned to Guyana with a reply from the Surinam Government to a letter from Georgetown he took three weeks ago.

Guyana was said to have protested in its note over what it considers to be the harassment of Guyanese fishermen on the Corentyne River, the main issue in the current impasse between the two countries.

Foreign affairs officials here have confirmed Mr. Saul's return home but have refused to give details on the reasons for the trip.

A month ago, Mr. Saul was recalled home for discussions following a series of reports from Guyanese that their relatives who were fishing in the Corentyne were arrested, their boats were confiscated and their catches seized.

Other Guyanese employed in other areas along the Corentyne River which is in dispute have also complained of harassment.

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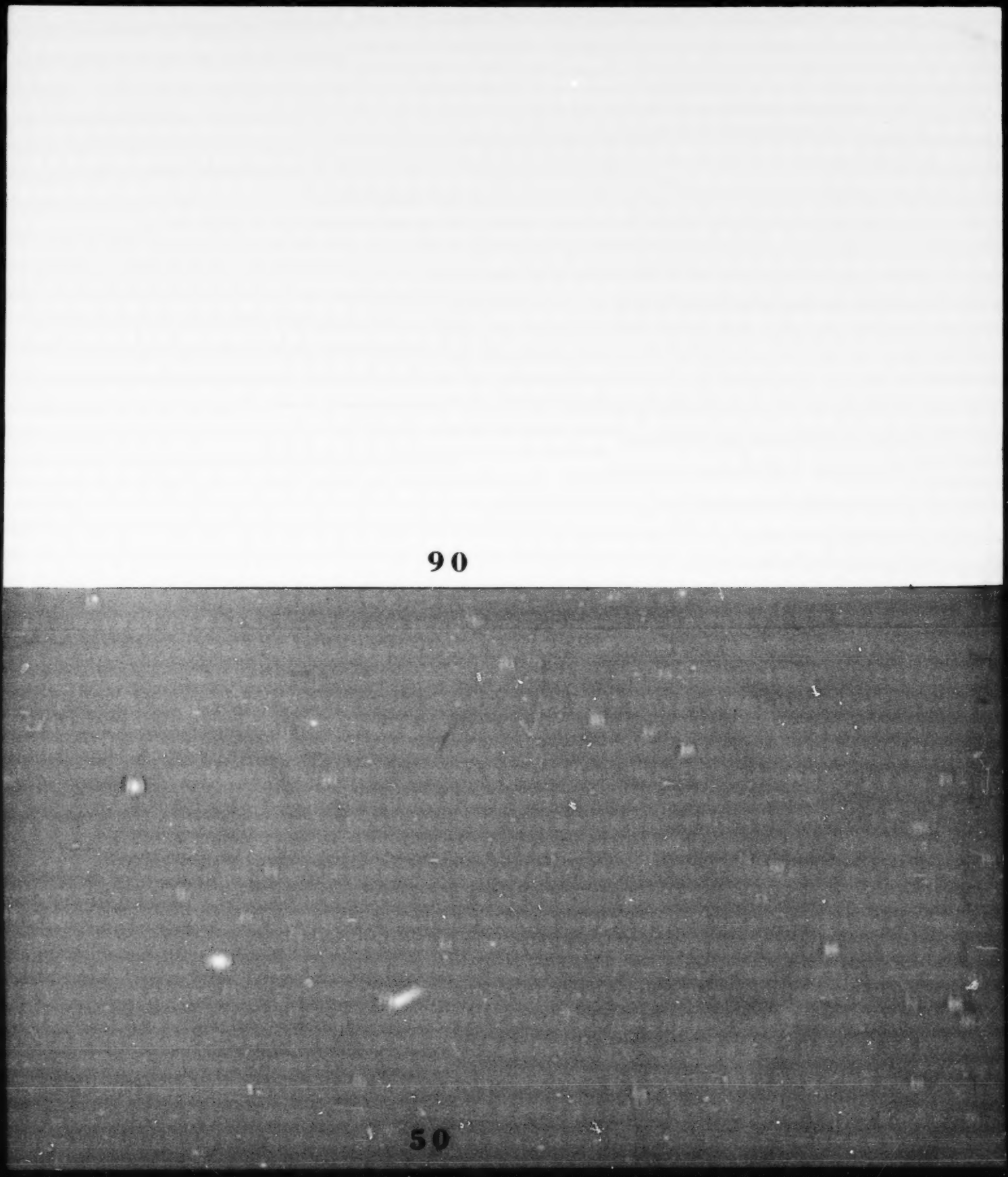
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